

The Jacob Journal

A NEWSLETTER FROM SUPERVISOR DIANNE JACOB

AUGUST 1998

Making County Government Work For You!



Each day I receive dozens of letters, phone calls, and e-mails from people just like you who want to solve a problem in their neighborhood. The problems range from stray dogs and potholes to zoning concerns.

Some of the most common problems are easily solved. Unfortunately, it's not always easy to know how to solve them. So here are the answers to some of the most common questions asked:

Who should I call to appeal the assessed value of my property?

In East County, call the Assessor's office at (619) 441-4480. Otherwise, call (619) 236-3771.

When is Business Personal Property appraised?

Annually. For more information, call (619) 505-6100.

Where can I get birth, death, or marriage certificates?

These vital records can be picked up at any of the Recorder's offices. The East County office is currently located in the El Cajon Regional Center at 200 E. Main Street, El Cajon. The office will be relocating soon, so be sure to call (619) 441-4799 to check the address before you drop in. If you would like to visit the Recorder at another location, call the main number at (619) 237-0502 to locate the office closest to you.

Do I need a Business License? How much does it cost?

The County's Business License Tax was recently eliminated by the Board of Supervisors at my request. However, certain

regulated businesses such as massage therapists and pawn shops may need a license from the Sheriff's Department Licensing Division. The phone number is (619) 974-2020.

How can I change the traffic rules or controls on my street?

The County's Traffic Advisory Committee looks at issues such as speed limits, radar enforcement, parking prohibitions, stop signs and traffic signals. To get in touch with the TAC call (619) 874-4040. The TAC makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, who ultimately make the decision.

How can I tell if a particular road is maintained by the County of San Diego?

Roughly 1/3 of the roads in the unincorporated areas of the County are in the County-maintained system. To find out if your road is one of them, call the Road Register Administrator at (619) 874-4071.

How do I report a pothole on a County maintained road?

Monday through Friday between 7:30 AM and 4:00 PM, simply call the Pothole Hotline at (619) 670-9808 or (760) 744-0606. For severe potholes in need of emergency repair after regular business hours, on weekends, or on holidays call (619) 565-5262.

What about paving or repaving a road?

Whether you live on a County maintained or a non-County maintained road, there are several ways to address the need for paving. Call the Department of Public Works at (619) 874-4040 to determine which is right for you.

My drainage channel is full of weeds. What can I do?

The County maintains a system of drainage channels. To find out if a particular segment of drainage channel is part of the County maintained system, call (619) 874-4071. If you already know a particular channel is County maintained, re-

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port the problem to the Department of Public Works at (619) 874-4040.

How can I find the zone designation, requirements, or restrictions for my property? And, how is that zone effected by the AG 20 / SOFAR lawsuit, or the proposed Rural Heritage and Watershed Initiative? All of this information is available by calling the zoning information section of the Department of Planning and Land Use at (619) 565-5981. Since zoning is site specific, you will need to know your parcel number when you call. If you don't already know the parcel number, call the Assessor's office before you call zoning information. The Assessor's number is (619) 236-3771.

Who do I call to report code violations such as excessive noise, illegal grading, junk or abandoned vehicles on a neighboring property, flooding of my property due to my neighbor's actions, illegal building, a business operating in a residential area or a violation of easements?

For enforcement of suspected code violations, East County residents can call the Code Enforcement Division of the Department of Planning and Land Use at (619) 694-3741.

A new construction project in my area is negatively impacting my home with dust, drainage problems, noise, or excessive grading. What should I do?

Call the Department of Planning and Land Use Building Inspection Division at (619) 565-5920. Depending on the type of construction project and the nature of the problem, the Building Inspection Division can refer you to the most appropriate agency.

Can I operate a business from my home?

That depends on a number of factors including the zoning and type of business. For information specific to your case, call (619) 565-5981. When you call, be sure you know the parcel number. If you don't already know the parcel number, call the Assessor's office at (619) 236-3771.

How can I adopt a pet?

To adopt a pet, visit any one of the County's animal shelters. The shelters are open 7 days a week and are located throughout the County. Call (619) 236-4250

for directions to the shelter nearest you. Or, check out the pets on the County's web page. To get there, go to www.diannejacob.com and follow the link under *Sites to See*.

What should I do about a barking dog?

If you believe that the dog is barking due to pain or suffering or other distress, call the Department of Animal Control's emergency number at (619) 278-9760. All other barking problems are covered by noise codes. In the unincorporated areas of the County, call the Department of Environmental Health at (619) 694-3550. In cities, check the phone book for the appropriate department.

Why do I have to license and vaccinate my dog? And, where can I get it done?

State law requires that all dogs be vaccinated and licensed. This can be done at any of the 3 shelters around the County, and also through many private veterinarians. Through an innovative public-private partnership, you can license and vaccinate your pet with just "One Stop" at a participating vet. For the "One Stop" shop or shelter nearest you, call (619) 595-4555.

How soon will an animal control officer respond to my call?

Generally, a response occurs within 24 hours, but serious incidents will receive immediate attention if the department is contacted while these events are in progress. The number is (619) 236-4250.

What if I have some other question?

As I said before - each day I receive letters, phone calls, and e-mails from people just like you. Write to me at 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335, San Diego, CA 92101 or via my website, www.diannejacob.com. My direct e-mail address is Dianne-Jacob@co.san-diego.ca.us. Or call me at (619) 531-5522 or (800) 852-7322. Your inquiries are both welcomed and encouraged. My job as your County Supervisor is to make County Government work for you!

on the web
www.diannejacob.com

County Welfare Caseload Down 28%

Jacob says reductions saved taxpayers \$132 M

San Diego, CA -- Just two years after the of the passage of federal welfare reform legislation, Supervisor Dianne Jacob announced that the County of San Diego has reduced its welfare caseload by 28%, representing almost 20,000 families that have transitioned from welfare to work. This reduction also resulted in a \$132 million savings for taxpayers!

"Many of the reforms in the federal legislation started right here in San Diego County," said Jacob. "We have taken an aggressive and broad-based approach - from fraud prevention to job training - to make certain that welfare recipients are provided with a hand-up, NOT a hand-out!"

In addition, Jacob credited District Attorney Paul Pfingst, who has implemented a successful program to collect child support from "deadbeat" dads. Since a large proportion of welfare recipients are single mothers, child-support is often the difference between the need for public assistance and financial independence. In fiscal year 1997-98, the District Attorney's office collected \$100 million in child support, up from \$50 million in fiscal year 1995-96.

Both Federal and State legislation place limitations on welfare recipients. Federal law places a five-year lifetime cap on welfare benefits, and State law limits recipients from receiving job training or public assistance to no more than 24 months, after which the only way parents can continue to get benefits is if they also do community service. Jacob says she will continue to aggressively push for additional needed reforms.

Supervisor Dianne Jacob proudly serves the communities of:

Agua Caliente Springs ♦ Allied Gardens ♦ Alpine ♦ Barrett ♦ Blossom Valley ♦
 Bostonia ♦ Boulevard ♦ Campo ♦ Canebrake ♦ Casa de Oro ♦ Crest ♦
 Cuyamaca ♦ Dehesa ♦ Del Cerro ♦ Descanso ♦ Dulzura ♦ El Cajon ♦
 Eucalyptus Hills ♦ Fernbrook ♦ Flinn Springs ♦ Granite Hills ♦ Guatay ♦
 Harbison Canyon ♦ Jacumba ♦ Jamul ♦ Julian ♦ La Mesa ♦ Lake Morena ♦
 Lakeside ♦ Lemon Grove ♦ Mount Laguna ♦ Mount Helix ♦ Pine Hills ♦
 Pine Valley ♦ Potrero ♦ Poway ♦ Ramona ♦ Rancho San Diego ♦ Rolando ♦
 San Carlos ♦ Santa Ysabel ♦ Santee ♦ Shelter Valley ♦ Spring Valley ♦
 Tecate ♦ Tierra del Sol ♦ Vallecitos

...and the Indian reservations of:

Barona ♦ Campo ♦ Cosmit ♦ Cuyapaipe ♦ Inaja ♦ Jamul ♦ La Posta ♦
 Manzanita ♦ Mesa Grande ♦ Santa Ysabel ♦ Sycuan ♦ Viejas

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We hope to hear from you soon!

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